speaketh lies, and he that soweth discord among brethren.''—Prov. 6: 16-19.

19 The clergy and the principal ones of their flocks in every division of the religious element of Satan's organization are guilty of all these abominable things. They are proud and haughty, resort to lies concerning God's purpose, urge men into war to shed innocent blood, and especially put forth efforts to turn the people away from the true God. Their wrongful course of action in this regard reached a climax when the Federation of Churches issued the following blasphemous statement:

> The time has come to organize the world for truth, right, justice and humanity. To this end as Christians we urge the establishment of a League of Free Nations at the coming Peace Conference. Such a league is not merely a peace expedient; it is rather the *political* expression of the kingdom of God on earth. The League of Nations is rooted in the gospel. Like the gospel, its objective is ''Peace on earth, good will toward men''. Like the gospel, its appeal is universal.
>
> The heroic dead will have died in vain unless out of victory shall come a new heaven and a new earth, wherein dwelleth righteousness.—2 Peter 3: 13.
>
> The church [nominal] can give a spirit of good will, without which no League of Nations can endure.

20 Proud and boastful in word and in manner this combined element of the religious part of Satan's organization set up in place of God's kingdom under Christ that man-made thing, highly esteemed among men, the League of Nations. The whole tendency of the League of Nations is to turn the people away from God and from Christ, and it is therefore a desolating thing, the product of Satan, and an abomination in the sight of God. One of the translators renders the text ''the horrid abomination''; and that is what the counterfeit of Christ's kingdom is.

21 That the League of Nations is highly esteemed among men is shown by the facts that, according to the public press, 140,000 pastors of denominational churches in the United States alone engaged in a united drive to force the United States legislative body to approve that compact and enter the League. They lauded and praised the League of Nations as that which will establish peace on earth and good will toward men, thereby wrongfully and blasphemously appropriating the words sent by Jehovah God through his angel to the peoples of earth. This act upon their part meets every requirement of the Scripture concerning ''the abomination that maketh desolate'', because it would turn the peoples of the earth away from Jehovah and turn their devotion entirely to a man-made thing.

22 The Papacy took the lead in the vicious doctrine and practice of taking away the daily sacrifice, and when ''the time of the end'' had been reached the Protestants had adopted the same devilish doctrines expressed in a more pointed way and direct manner by denying the sacrificial blood of Jesus Christ. The Protestant clergy took the lead in setting up the ''horrid abomination which maketh desolate'', and all the religious systems have joined hands in support thereof. All are therefore a part of Satan's organization. Satan, acting through his agencies, has caused the ''abomination that maketh desolate'' to ''stand in the holy place'', that is to say, in the place and stead of Jehovah's kingdom with Christ as King. There is now but one class of people on earth that stands separate and aloof from that ''horrid abomination'', and that people is God's anointed ones, or ''holy people'', who are his witnesses.

23 Jesus, approving those who are devoted to Jehovah and to his King, said: ''When ye, therefore, shall see the abomination of desolation, spoken of by Daniel the prophet, stand in the holy place, (whoso readeth, let him understand:) then let them which be in Judæa flee into the mountains.'' His plain statement is that ''the abomination'' would be seen after the end of the world. He tells the faithful that they must bear the message of the gospel of Jehovah and his kingdom to the nations of the earth as a witness. The faithful have joined in doing this, and all such are therefore in Judæa (meaning the condition of ''praise'' to Jehovah's name), and in obedience to the words thus uttered by Christ Jesus they have turned themselves wholly to the kingdom of God and to his Christ. Now the question is, How do these indisputable facts fit the period of time of 1290 days as spoken by Daniel the prophet?

24 Seeing that the two things, to wit, 'the taking away of the daily sacrifice' and 'the setting up of the abomination that maketh desolate' must be fully accomplished facts at the time of the beginning of the 1290-day period, then we must look at the facts showing when this was actually accomplished. If we find the date when it was actually accomplished, then it is easy to count forward 1290 days and find the end thereof. It was in the latter part of January, 1919, that the Federation of Churches set up a substitute, the League of Nations, as 'the expression of God's kingdom on earth'. The period of 1290 days (Biblical method of reckoning) is equal to three years and seven months. Counting three years and seven months from and after January, 1919, brings us to the beginning of September, 1922. Since the Scriptures and the facts show that the 1260 days is a period of literal time, we are warranted in concluding that the same rule applies to the other days mentioned in this same connection.

25 It seems certain that the fulfilment of the 1290-day period and that which immediately follows must be for the benefit, encouragement, and comfort of the people of God; otherwise there would have been no reason to make a record thereof. ''The time of the end'' is therefore of special interest, aid and comfort to the church because it marks the beginning of Christ's kingdom; the end of the 1260-day period, and that which immediately followed, was of special interest, aid and comfort to the church because it marked the end of the complete scattering of the power of

God's holy people. We must therefore expect that the end of the 1290-day period, and that which immediately follows, must be of special interest, aid and comfort to the holy people of God. This must be true, because whatsoever is written in the Scriptures is written for the benefit, aid and comfort of God's anointed people.—Rom. 15:4.

[26] As above stated, the period of 1290 days, according to the undisputed facts, had its beginning with the end of January, 1919. Three years and seven months thereafter must of necessity end with the beginning of September, 1922. What immediately followed that time that was of aid, encouragement, and comfort to the church of God? At the beginning of September, 1922, there assembled at Cedar Point, Ohio, a convention of the consecrated people of God made up of men and women who spoke many different languages. The program and other arrangements for that convention were made in advance, with no knowledge that the date or dates were at all important. At that convention, amidst great enthusiasm, at the general assembly of those of many languages, was made the first announcement of the slogan "Advertise the King and the Kingdom". From that time forward there has been greater activity in the service of Jehovah, and a more earnest and organized preaching of the gospel of the kingdom, than previously. It has been suggested, and with force, that it was that time which marked the second outpouring of the holy spirit as mentioned by the Prophet Joel. That convention, at the general assembly of those speaking various languages, also unanimously adopted a resolution, and sent it forth by the millions to the peoples of the world, announcing, among other things, that Jehovah is the only true God; that Christ Jesus is the Redeemer and Deliverer of man; that the clergy and the principal of their flock have denied the value of Christ Jesus' sacrifice and have otherwise repudiated the Lord and his kingdom by endorsing and approving the League of Nations, which is the product of Satan, is disapproved of Jehovah, and must therefore completely fail. (See *The Watch Tower*, November 1, 1922.)

[27] Exactly 1290 days after the accomplished facts of 'taking away the daily sacrifice and the setting up of the abomination that maketh desolate', to wit, the substitution of a man-made thing for God's kingdom, God's anointed people were permitted to announce that Christendom, so named, had openly declared unfaithfulness to Jehovah and had become abominable in his sight. That was certainly a time of encouragement, aid and comfort to the anointed of the Lord. All the consecrated who approved the action taken at the Cedar Point convention above mentioned were greatly benefited, aided and comforted thereby, which benefit proceeded from the Lord. There must be something more than a coincidence in what the Lord had foretold and what he brought to pass at that time. It is a small thing, but it may here be mentioned as important, that the day the announcement of the slogan advertising the King and his kingdom was made was designated on the program as "The Day", and was a day of rejoicing. God, through his prophet, had said: "This is the day which the Lord hath made; we will rejoice and be glad in it."—Ps. 118:24.

[28] That the aforementioned resolution was regarded by others than the anointed as an important point in history the following editorial from the Bridgeport (Conn.) *Herald* is of interest:

> With Mustapha Kemal thundering at the gates of Constantinople, demanding the return of the Dardanelles control to Turkey, while the British lion is rushing her warrior breed to the Golden Horn, with the revolutionary spirit of "red" Russia threatening to Bolshevikize all Europe, with the American public murmuring fiercely at atrociously high prices of coal and other necessities caused in part by two costly national strikes, it is interesting to note what one of the largest and most active Christian organizations in the world thinks of this crisis in history.
>
> Upward of 20,000 ardent churchmen attended the meetings of the International Bible Students Association at Cedar Point, Ohio, during its recent convention. That they are disgusted with the morals and spirit of our world, statesmen, and even the ways of the League of Nations, is obvious in their unanimous resolution on world affairs.
>
> We submit that, regardless of what the individual reader may think of its philosophy, the ensuing resolution deserves incorporation in history as a vivid reflection of what many of our churchmen think of these times.
>
> What a documentary study it affords for psychologists—this modern discourse on that eternal duel between God and Satan!
>
> How we would like to note the expressions of Lloyd George, Clemenceau, Venizelos, Lenin, Hughes or Root, could we but see them reading the resolution.

BLESSED TIME

[29] Then Daniel was caused to write down these words: "Blessed is he that waiteth, and cometh to the thousand three hundred and five and thirty days." (Dan. 12:12) Without a doubt this was written for the aid, comfort and encouragement of God's anointed ones because those remaining faithful at that time are the only ones that would really be in a blessed condition. The word "waiteth", in the above text, is from the Hebrew word meaning "to entrench as in the fortification, to adhere, stick fast or remain stedfast and fixed". This meaning seems to be specifically significant. The coming of the Lord to his temple in 1918 marked the beginning of tests upon God's people and the falling away of many who had claimed to be in the covenant with God. It is from that time, however, that those who have continued to stand stedfast and fixed in the Lord have been so marvelously blessed, and they have continued to talk of the blessed time and to sing the praises to Jehovah's name. They see eye to eye and together lift up the voice and sing and tell of the excellent things Jehovah has done and is doing.—Isa. 52:8; 12:2-6.

[30] According to the Biblical method of reckoning, 1335 days equals three years eight and one-half months. Understanding that the period of 1290 days ended with September 1, 1922, and marked a time of

encouragement to the church, we should expect that the period of 1335 days would mark a time in which God's people would begin to have special blessings. From September 1, 1922, a period of three years eight and one-half months brings us to the middle of May, 1926. Immediately following thereafter there came to pass events of special interest, aid and comfort to the people of God. On the twenty-fifth day of May, 1926, a great convention of God's anointed people assembled in London, England, and was in session for seven days. That convention unanimously adopted a resolution which, among other things, announced to the rulers of the world that London, which is the capital of the British Empire, is the "seat of the beast"; that the British Empire is the greatest among the world powers; that Satan is its god; that Satan is the father and the British Empire the mother of the League of Nations; that Jehovah has made Christ earth's rightful King and has placed him upon his throne and calls upon the rulers of the nations of earth to give their allegiance and devotion to Christ, who is earth's rightful King. (See *The Watch Tower*, July 15, 1926.)

[31] At that convention ecclesiasticism, which breeds hypocrisy and which to a large degree had obtained amongst the brethren, was given a deathblow. The brethren realized as never before their duty and privilege to throw off formalism and boldly and plainly speak the truth to the glory of God. The field service of carrying the message to the people was the greatest ever known up to that same time. Many brethren, even elders attending that convention who had prior thereto failed and refused to enter the service, went out in the field service with great joy and with splendid results and freely expressed the great blessedness and joy therein. The number of books and booklets put in the hands of the people by brethren at that convention totaled 120,900 volumes. *The Watch Tower* (1926-217) carried the report of that convention, and from the last paragraph thereof the following is quoted:

> Nothing like this had ever been known on Service Day at a convention.

[32] The friends were bubbling over with enthusiasm. They felt that they had done their best to obey the commandments of Jehovah: "Ye are my witnesses, that I am God." It was a blessed time, and those who had stood firm up until that time rejoiced and gave God thanks that they were still in his favor.

[33] Ever since that time until now has been a blessed time for those who are in Christ. Jehovah's lightnings have continued to flash, revealing to his people a clearer vision of his purposes, and he has continued to feed them upon his Word; and, showing diligence in his service, his people have enjoyed the blessed assurance of the love and approval of God. From that time forward God has continued to reveal to his anointed the meaning of many things not before understood. Among the blessed things that have been made known to them by the grace of God are these, to wit: the temple of God; the servant; the wine press; the stone laid in Zion; the prisoners; the secret place of the Most High; sure mercies of David; God's lightnings; the altar in Egypt; the higher powers; meaning of the book of Job; and many other precious things.

[34] Since then the Lord has caused the building of factories to manufacture books, giving a greatly increased production thereof; and has sent an army of devoted ones into the field to put the message in the hands of the people, and has widely used the radio to open the way therefor. Never before have the anointed had such a blessed time. The field service has taken on an activity since then as never before, and all the anointed of the Lord delight in having a part in preaching the gospel of the kingdom and magnifying the name of Jehovah God in obedience to his commandments.

[35] Seeing that at the fixed time of the end Michael must stand up and a great time of trouble begin, and that a careful scrutiny of the Word of God and an increase of knowledge of God's people must follow, there does not seem to have been anything that came to pass in 1799 to fulfil this prophecy. The facts do show, however, that many things have come to pass from 1914 onward in fulfilment thereof. Seeing that the 1260 days must end with the 'scattering of the power of the holy people' and the purifying of many, that they might understand the prophecies of God, there does not seem to be anything that came to pass in 1799 or in 1829 in fulfilment of this prophecy. The two periods, to wit, the "time of the end" and the "1260 days" could not be the same. Seeing that the 1290-day period must end at the time when both the taking away of the daily sacrifice has been accomplished *and* the abomination that maketh desolate is set up and stands in the holy place, there appears to be nothing that came to pass in 1829 that fulfilled this prophecy. But the facts, as above stated, do show many things in fulfilment thereof from 1919 to 1922. Seeing that the 1335-day period must end with a blessed time to the people of God, it does not appear that anything came to pass to show a fulfilment thereof in 1874, even though the latter date marks the beginning of the Lord's presence and the beginning of his work in preparing the way before Jehovah. The time of blessedness could not come until after the purifying took place, when the Lord came to his temple; and that did not occur until 1918. But when we understand from the Scriptures and the physical facts that the "time of the end" was a definitely fixed time and must come when God places his King upon his throne, and that this occurred in 1914, then the other prophecies and the facts fit exactly as herein stated. Briefly, then, these prophecies and the dates of their fulfilment are as follows, to wit:

[36] The fixed "time of the end" is October 1, 1914 A.D.

[37] The 1260-day period ended in April, 1918.

[38] The 1290-day period ended September, 1922.

[39] The 1335-day period of blessedness began May, 1926, and goes on for ever.

[40] Another fact in corroboration of the above is this: Since 1918, when the Lord began judgment at his temple, there has been a shaking and a falling away of those not approved by the Lord. From these the foretold "wicked servant" has been formed. These have not understood the grand and progressive unfolding of the prophecies, which unfolding Jehovah has given to his people. They have rebelled against God and his Christ, have spurned and scoffed at the truth he has given to his people, have opposed the service of giving a bold and fearless witness to the name of Jehovah, and have gnashed their teeth upon those who have joyfully gone forth in the service; they have hated instruction and cast God's words behind them; they have given their mouths to evil and have slandered their own mother's (covenant's) son. And they have not understood the truth, for the reason God gave through Daniel: "None of the wicked shall understand."—Ps. 50:17, 21; Dan. 12:10.

[41] On the other side, those who have been brought under the robe of righteousness and into the temple have understood and have greatly rejoiced in the Lord, and have said: "I will greatly rejoice in the Lord, my soul shall be joyful in my God; for he hath clothed me with the garments of salvation, he hath covered me with the robe of righteousness, as a bridegroom decketh himself with ornaments, and as a bride adorneth herself with her jewels." (Isa. 61:10) They have been made members of Zion, have taken a wise course in obedience to God's commandments, and have shone forth as God's witnesses. (Ps. 50:2) Such have been purified by the Lord and have offered an 'offering in righteousness unto the Lord', even their unstinted service and joyful praise to the great Jehovah God. (Dan. 12:10; Mal. 3:3; Heb. 13:15) They not only have understood the unfolding of prophecy, but have delighted and continue to delight in praising Jehovah and in 'declaring his doings among the people'. Theirs is a blessed lot!

[42] The book of Daniel concludes with a personal message from the Lord to Daniel himself. He was not permitted to understand the prophecy, but the Lord said to him: "Go thou thy way till the end [that is, the completion of the class whom Daniel represented] be; and [margin] thou shalt rest [sleep in death], and stand [rise again] in thy lot at the end of the days." Clearly this means that when the church is complete and raised to heavenly glory, Daniel, the beloved, shall be resurrected and stand as a perfect man on earth to the vindication of the word and the gracious and glorious name of

JEHOVAH GOD.

QUESTIONS FOR BEREAN STUDY

¶ 1, 2. What had Daniel been directed to do regarding that which in revelation and vision was given to him for record? Point out the importance of the year 1914 (a) with respect to fulfilment of Daniel 12:1; (b) in regard to the kingdom of God; (c) as to the state of affairs in Satan's dominion. What did 1918 bring in relation thereto?

¶ 3, 4. What did Daniel then see? Explain the question, and the answer thereto, which Daniel then heard spoken.

¶ 5, 6. Show whether 1799 marked the fulfilment of the prophecy regarding 'the scattering of the holy people, and the end of the 1260 days'.

¶ 7-9. Describe the conditions and events which fit the prophecy, and verify the application of the time feature thereof.

¶ 10-12. With scriptures and facts, show conclusively when that 'scattering' took place, and whether it was final.

¶ 13. What is now manifest as to God's way of revealing prophecy? What has man himself to do with his coming to an understanding of prophecy?

¶ 14-17. Point out the two events which mark the beginning of the "one thousand two hundred and ninety days". What is meant by 'the taking away of the daily sacrifice'? Describe the parts taken therein by the Catholic and Protestant divisions of the religious element of Satan's organization.

¶ 18-20. Explain the meaning of "the abomination that maketh desolate". Describe how it was "set up".

¶ 21, 22. Point out the parts taken by the Catholics and Protestants in fulfilment of this condition of the prophecy. Identify "the holy people", as here made manifest.

¶ 23. Who would 'see the abomination of desolation stand in the holy place'? Identify "them which be in Judæa", and explain how they would "flee into the mountains".

¶ 24-28. Point out, then, the period of 1290 days. Describe the significant event which marked the end of that period. Give some of the evidence of the importance of that event.

¶ 29. The statement in Daniel 12:12 was, doubtless, recorded for what purpose? Who are they that 'waited', and how were they 'blessed' while waiting?

¶ 30-32. Describe the event of May, 1926, as part of the 'blessedness' of those who had 'waited'.

¶ 33, 34. Point out some of the many things with which the Lord's faithful people have been blessed in fulfilment of this text (verse 12).

¶ 35-39. Summarize the evidence as to the periods referred to in Daniel's record as "a time, times, and an half", "one thousand two hundred and ninety days," and "one thousand three hundred and five and thirty days".

¶ 40. Show whether the evidence foregoing is supported by the statement that 'the wicked shall do wickedly, and shall not understand', and its fulfilment.

¶ 41. What has been the blessed condition and privilege of the obedient?

¶ 42. Explain the personal message to Daniel, with which his record concludes.

Long in bondage we have waited
For the dawning of the light;
Error's chains we've felt and hated
Through the long and weary night.

Now the blessed light appearing
Fills our hearts with joy and peace,
Doubt and fear for aye dispelling;
Oh, what rest in this release!